

GLOBAL ACCESS TO HIV/AIDS PREVENTION, AWARENESS, EDUCATION, AND TREATMENT ACT OF 2001

SPEECH OF

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 11, 2001

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 2069 the Global Access to HIV/AIDS Prevention, Awareness, Education, and Treatment Act of 2001. The HIV/AIDS pandemic threatens the stability of the modern world, as we know it in both developed and developing countries.

I would first like to thank Chairman HYDE for introducing this important legislation. I also would like to thank Congresswoman BARBARA LEE for her tireless work in the area of AIDS and her efforts to raise the consciousness of her colleagues to combat this horrendous disease.

The devastation of the HIV/AIDS disease does not discriminate, and impacts the lives of us all. Recent reports from the United Nations state that more than 58 million people globally have been infected with HIV/AIDS. This horrendous disease has negatively impacted the economies of Africa, the Caribbean, Asia, and Eastern Europe.

This legislation takes a comprehensive approach to combating HIV/AIDS by providing funding for the prevention, education, testing, treatment, and care of individuals with HIV/AIDS. I support and applaud the substantial increase in funding that H.R. 2069 provides to fight HIV/AIDS around the world. I am happy to see that this bill authorizes \$485 million in bilateral funding, \$50 million for treatment, and \$750 million for multilateral funding for fiscal year 2002. I hope that this contribution by the United States is the first of many, and that it will serve as a down payment on the improvement of our global future.

The HIV/AIDS pandemic has erased decades of progress in improving the lives of families in the developing world and has claimed 22,000,000 lives since its inception.

More than 17,000,000 individuals have died from HIV/AIDS in sub-Saharan Africa alone.

Two-thirds of those diagnosed with the AIDS virus in the Caribbean are dead within two years. AIDS is the leading cause of death in the Caribbean for those fifteen to forty-five years of age and these numbers continue to increase.

We as a nation must once again exhibit the strong leadership that is our heritage and do the right thing by addressing this humanitarian and economic crisis head on. H.R. 2069 does just that by exhibiting our commitment in the U.S. Congress to combating this dreaded disease through the authorization of this much needed and necessary funding.—

CONFERENCE REPORT ON H.R. 1,
NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND ACT OF
2001

HON. RODNEY P. FRELINGHUYSEN

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 18, 2001

Mr. FRELINGHUYSEN. Mr. Speaker, on December 13, the House passed H.R. 1, the

No Child Left Behind Act of 2001 Conference Report by an overwhelming, bi-partisan majority vote. By doing so, we have deliver (on President Bush's promise and commitment to improve the education of every child in America!

It is our President's number one, domestic priority, other than Homeland Security.

In his Inaugural Address, President Bush in speaking about our responsibilities and values as citizens said "Together, we will reclaim America's schools, before ignorance and apathy claim more young lives."

President Bush called upon Congress to achieve that goal by coming up with a plan to reform education in new and bold ways.

Earlier this year, the House responded first by passing the most comprehensive education reform package in almost three decades.

This bill, the No Child Left Behind Act calls for a major increase in federal funds for both states and local school districts. The final agreement with the House and Senate does just that.

It sets aside close to \$135 billion for education over the next 5 years alone.

But more importantly, these dollars will ensure accountability by providing the following: unprecedented new flexibility for states and school districts in the use of federal education funds, ensures higher levels of achievement for students to meet and surpass, sets new accountability standards to keep only the most qualified teachers in our classroom and provides more choices for parents in determining the best education possible for their children.

These are important reforms that will replace three and a half decades of increased education spending that have simply not produced the results Americans deserve.

As President Bush rightly put it, "dollars alone do not always make a difference."

Today's victory ensures that no child will be left behind. In fact, following the enactment of our reform bill, immediate new options will be available to students in thousands of failing public schools across the United States.

A Department of Education analysis finds that students at nearly 3,000 underachieving public schools nationwide will be eligible for immediate, new options to achieve a better education in a more suitable learning environment.

Mr. Speaker, today I urge my colleagues in the other body to pass H.R. 1 so that we can get it to President's desk and signed into law before the end of the year.

For years, we have been providing critical funds for the education of our children. Now we are taking an extra step to ensure those dollars produce results.

HONORING NASA ADMINISTRATOR
DANIEL GOLDIN

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 18, 2001

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today on behalf of the Congressional Black Caucus to recognize NASA's longest-serving Administrator, Mr. Daniel Saul Goldin, who during his nearly decade-long tenure, starting in 1992, demonstrated a commitment to the educational excellence of minori-

ties in the areas of science, mathematics, engineering and research.

He has demonstrated his commitment to educational excellence for all Americans through NASA's Office of Equal Opportunity Programs', Minority University Research and Education Division. His efforts helped the Agency to focus on establishing Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUS) and Other Minority Universities (OMUS) as model institutions of teaching, learning, research and service, effectively educating diverse populations for NASA and the nation.

During his tenure, NASA's Minority University Research and Education Division's budget realized a 200% increase from about \$40 million in FY 1992 to \$82 million dollars in FY 2001.

Under his exceptional leadership, NASA's HBCU and Hispanic Education Programs received Presidential citations as models for the federal sector, and the pre-college Science Engineering Mathematics Aerospace Academy (SEMAA) Program, begun in 1993 under the auspices of former Congressman Louis Stokes, has been replicated to more than 17 sites nationwide.

Mr. Goldin also established several programs that were aimed at increasing the number of minority students in the areas of science, engineering, mathematics, and research. Those programs include: the Model of Institutions for Excellence (MIE), which upgrades the quality of science, engineering and mathematics education; the Network Resources and Training Site (NRTS), which provides state-of-the-art computer and information technology to minority institutions; and Project ACCESS (Achieving Competence in Computers, Engineering, Space Science), which provides a NASA-wide intern program for college students with targeted disabilities.

Administrator Goldin encouraged enhanced NASA-related research by faculty at minority institutions through the Faculty Awards Research Program. He also provided sustained funding to 14-multidisciplinary University Research Centers (URCS) at minority institutions, and he facilitated the integration of HBCUs and OMUs into conventional mainstream research programs at NASA.

As led by Administrator Goldin, NASA and the Congressional Black Caucus partnered successfully to expand educational opportunities for minorities in science, mathematics and engineering to increase the presence of minorities in research and technology-related fields.

In addition to initiating the "faster, better, cheaper" approach that enabled NASA to deliver programs of high value to the American public without sacrificing safety, his aggressive management reforms helped to produce a 40 billion dollar reduction from prior budget plans.

He reduced NASA's workforce by about a third while reducing the Headquarters' workforce by more than half, without resorting to forced layoffs—all of this with a 40% gain in productivity.

Mr. Goldin implemented a more balanced aeronautics and space program by reducing human space flight from 48% of the Agency's total budget to 38%.

He also played a pivotal role in redesigning the International Space Station and in 1995, he personally visited more than 200 members on Capitol Hill to win support for Space Station.

Defense Business named Mr. Goldin as one of the world's most influential defense-industry leaders saying "he has tightened the workforce, introduced a stunning array of new missions, including information-gathering journeys to the Moon and Mars, and became the major player in the embryonic International Space Station."

He has also been named as one of the 100 most influential men and women in Government by the National Journal, which observed that "most space watchers say that Dan Goldin is a brilliant visionary who brought NASA back from the brink of a black hole."

Once again, the members of the Congressional Black Caucus, recognize the enduring contributions of Administrator Daniel S. Goldin and appreciate his dedication to the improvement of science, engineering, and mathematics education and research, among minority students in the United States.

TRIBUTE TO JAMES D. RUTH

HON. GARY G. MILLER

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 18, 2001

Mr. GARY MILLER of California. Mr. Speaker, it is with great pleasure that I rise to honor James D. Ruth who is retiring after 22 years of exemplary service to the City of Anaheim and 45 years in public service.

Mr. Ruth's impressive resume includes numerous noteworthy accomplishments. Under his tenure as city manager, Anaheim became internationally recognized as a hub for entertainment and for its world class convention center. His crowning achievement was the role he played in negotiations for the construction of the 19,500-seat Arrowhead Pond arena, which has affectionately been called "the house that Ruth built," and his work with the Walt Disney Company to bring the Mighty Ducks of the National Hockey League to the Pond.

Mr. Ruth was very instrumental in the \$118 million renovation of Edison Field, and thereby the retention of the Anaheim Angels and Major League Baseball in Orange County. He negotiated with the Walt Disney Company to develop in Anaheim their new theme park, California Adventure, at cost of \$1.4 billion. In conjunction with the park expansion, the city initiated and began the implementation of a \$510 million improvement program to the Anaheim Resort Area and a \$1.9 billion renovation of the Santa Ana (I-5) Freeway. Revitalization projects provided low income housing in the Jeffrey-Lynne neighborhood west of Disneyland, a \$58.2 million Community Center, and a much needed Senior Center.

Mr. Ruth's vision, outstanding business and governmental acumen, strong leadership skills and dedication to public service have earned the admiration and respect of those who have had the privilege of working with him. I would like to congratulate him on these outstanding accomplishments and sincerely thank him for his exemplary record of service to the City of Anaheim.

DEFENDING AMERICA FROM BALLISTIC MISSILE ATTACKS

HON. BOB SCHAFFER

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 18, 2001

Mr. SCHAFFER. Mr. Speaker, we need to defend our country from ballistic missile attack. President Bush has taken a major step toward that goal by withdrawing from the 1972 ABM Treaty. President Bush has our sincere thanks and congratulations for removing the United States from a treaty that inhibited our defense and was repeatedly violated by Russia.

We need to act decisively to build a ballistic missile defense. The fact that our country is undefended from ballistic missiles is a reflection of our lack of political will to build a defense. The technology for a ballistic missile defense is available, and has been for years and even decades, as noted by the Director of the Strategic Defense Initiative Organization under President George H.W. Bush's administration.

I strongly urge the President to fully fund a robust ballistic missile defense program encompassing a variety of technologies and defenses. A robust defense made up of several layers will more easily guard against countermeasures such as those planned by China to attack U.S. radar and communication nodes, or by Russia to use ballistic missiles for launching hypersonic scramjets.

Full funding for a robust ballistic missile defense will call for increases in spending. This spending is justified. Our lack of ballistic missile defense is not justified. Freedom has a price, including a strong defense, and the ballistic missile threat is increasing, whether measured by North Korea's ballistic missile program, or China's buildup involving its road-mobile DF-31 ICBM.

Funding, for example, needs to be increased for the Space Based Laser program. Instead of being funded annually at between \$50-150 million, the Space Based Laser should be funded an order of magnitude greater at \$500-1500 million. This increase in funding will enable the Space Based Laser to be tested and deployment begin sooner than after 2010 as currently scheduled.

Lack of funding, not technology, keeps us from building a constellation of Space Based Lasers. In 1995, three major aerospace contractors wrote to the Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, STROM THURMOND, on the Space Based Laser, pointing out how additional funding of approximately \$1.5 billion over four years could result in a test launch of a Space Based Laser.

While this estimate for testing the Space Based Laser in space was prepared nearly seven years ago, it clearly illustrates how the level of funding for the Space Based Laser should be on a billion-dollar level rather than \$50-150 million. (The Space Based Laser, with its boost phase interception capability and global coverage, will provide a more effective defense compared to the Mid Course Phase ground-based interceptor currently under development.)

Additional money for research and development into other high-energy laser technologies is called for. In October 2001 key defense scientists recommended a substantial cash infu-

sion into laser technology. Over and above funding for the Space Based Laser, additional funding is needed for research into high-energy lasers. These lasers could include chemical gas lasers such as the DF laser (the Space Based Laser uses an HF chemical reaction), excimer and free electron lasers, or even solid-state lasers. Nor should high-energy particle beams be neglected, which showed promise in the 1989 BEAR experiment. (Particle beams as well as lasers can provide effective mid-course phase discrimination of decoys from warheads.) This research into lasers and particle beams would be invaluable, and result in commercial applications. Funding, similar to the Strategic Defense Initiative, should be on a billion-dollar level.

In addition, funding is needed to re-start the Brilliant Pebbles space-based interceptor program that was successfully ground-tested under President George H.W. Bush's administration, and successfully flight-tested in the Clementine lunar mission. Annual funding for this program should be expected at around \$500-1500 million to deploy a constellation of at least a thousand interceptors. Brilliant Pebbles can provide a boost phase interception capability, as well as mid-course phase interception. This space-based defense is not far off into the future, but was approved to enter its acquisition phase under the Bush Senior administration in 1992. To supplement the mid-course interception capability of Brilliant Pebbles, funding for the SBIRS-low constellation of missile launch detection and tracking satellites should be accelerated.

The funding increases needed for ballistic missile defense are in line with any other major arms acquisition program. But the political will is now needed to ask for this funding. It is worth noting that current U.S. defense spending is at one of its lowest levels since before Pearl Harbor.

I urgently request that President Bush prepare a ballistic missile defense budget that will enable the United States to exploit its technology in high-energy lasers and hit-to-kill interceptors. Much of this technology should be deployed in orbit where it can provide global coverage, multiple opportunities for interception, and a boost phase interception capability.

TRIBUTE TO THE DOMINICAN AMERICAN NATIONAL ROUNDTABLE

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, December 18, 2001

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, Representatives of the community with a common heritage from the Dominican Republic gathered December 7-9, 2001 for the fourth annual conference of the Dominican American National Roundtable. Each year, this group comes together to reflect on the past year, discuss areas of need within the community, and plan for the upcoming year. This year's conference was especially meaningful in light of the recent tragedies affecting the Dominican American community and I extend my most sincere congratulations to the DANR and its president Adriano Espallat for hosting such a successful weekend here in Washington DC.